Colorado for Family Values

February 24, 1999

Dear Representative:

As you consider HB 1245 and whether it would be good for the people of Colorado and safe for our children, there are a couple of factors that we would like to bring to your consideration.

Are you aware that Section 4, 8-17-101 and line 17 of the bill gives special and unlimited access to the children of our state -- whether in schools, foster care, or mentoring programs -- by those who practice the homosexual lifestyle. That is, unless there is a known criminal record, this bill says that employment cannot be denied to anyone who practices homosexual behavior. History and recent examples from our headlines tell us why this is so important.

"Although homosexuals account for only 1% to 3% of the population, many different studies by the scientific community conclude that they are responsible for as many as 45% of all child sexual assaults" (Jeffrey Satinover, *Homosexuality and Politics of Truth*, 1996, p. 65). Also, the research proves that "both here and abroad, that the normalization of homosexuality has been followed by a move to normalize all forms of sexuality, *pedophilia explicitly included*, and to lower the age of consent laws so as to make it legal as well" (Satinover, p. 66; italics in original)

By the way, did you know that the age of consent in Colorado is only 15 years of age?

And now to today's headlines: As reported in the Denver Post, February 19th, page 4B, "a 32 year old HIV-positive man who works with children was arrested in Colorado Springs for having unprotected sexual intercourse with a 12 year old boy." The boy, who is in state foster care, was taken advantage of by a counselor and mentor in the state system. Studies show that this is not an isolated incidence because people who practice homosexual behavior have more sex with children than do heterosexuals.

Finally, this bill needs to be voted down to prevent giving protected class status and access to children by those who practice dangerous and potentially deadly behavior. This is not an issue of discrimination but of public health and protection of innocent children. Especially for our children, please vote down and reject HB 1245.

Sincerely yours,

Paul A. Jessen

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